

Rule Up For Filing

Proposed Amendment of WAC 230-40-610

Player-supported jackpots – Restrictions – Manner of conducting – Approval.

ITEM 17 (a) on the September 10, 2004, Commission Meeting Agenda.	Statutory Authority 9.46.070
Who proposed the rule change?	
Staff.	
Why is this rule change needed?	
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Currently, this rule requires logo cards be used in all house-banked card rooms and by E5 or higher poker licensees. During the past year, licensees have had difficulty finding a manufacturer of logo poker cards and brought the situation to the attention of staff. In response to the lack of logo cards, staff put forward an amendment to require only house-banked card games and poker games offering player-supported jackpots (PSJ) to use logo cards. The proposal was filed at the April 2004, Commission meeting. At the July meeting, a licensee requested that logo cards not be required for PSJ games. Staff did not have regulatory concerns allowing this as long as an amendment was made to WAC 230-40-610 requiring cards to be verified by the dealer when PSJs were paid out. At the August meeting, the Commission adopted an amendment to WAC 230-40-070 to require only house-banked card games to use logo cards. At that time, staff recommended filing an amendment to WAC 230-40-610 at the September meeting to become effective at the same time poker games are allowed to be played with non logo cards (January 1, 2005).

The proposed amendment would require dealers to verify, under surveillance, that the correct cards are in the deck when a PSJ is paid out.

Housekeeping subsection (5)(c): "fan" clarified to "display the value and suit of each card in the winning hand."

Staff requests this rule become effective at the same time logo cards are no longer required for poker games, January 1, 2005.

Attachment:

- 1) Letter dated July 15, 2004, from the Recreational Gaming Association proposing an amendment to this rule.
- 2) WAC 230-40-070, showing language adopted at the August 13, 2004, Commission meeting to become effective January 1, 2005.

Statements against the proposed rule change.
None at this time.
Which licensees will be directly impacted?
Card rooms offering player-support jackpots.
What are the potential impacts to the agency?
Minimal.
Staff recommendation.
File for further discussion.
Proposed effective date.
January 1, 2005.